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THE MONTANIAN

Libby MT 59923

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Superior Clipping Service

Glendive MT 406-377-6612



# ASK EPA!!

Questions and Answers about  
Asbestos and EPA's Investigation

**Q: Will EPA place liens on properties whose value increases as a result of cleanup?**

**A:** EPA has not and currently has no intention of filing liens on properties after cleanup, even if the value of the property increases.

EPA has written a statement for local business owners in Libby saying that they will not be held liable for cleanup costs if they have not "actively participated in a for-profit enterprise of distributing, treating, storing or disposing of Libby vermiculite."

There is a law which allows EPA to file what are referred to as "windfall liens." This provision was made to ensure that when EPA cleans up a site at taxpayer expense, developers cannot exclusively reap the financial benefits of that cleanup without compensating the government for the taxpayer funds used for cleanup. EPA has discretion as to which situations may warrant a windfall lien and we know of no such situations in Libby at this time. It is EPA's policy to not seek windfall liens against residential landowners.

Again, EPA has clearly stated that it will not try to recover cleanup costs from local business owners or homeowners in Libby Montana. For a copy of these assurances, please visit the EPA Information Center at 501 Mineral Ave. in Libby.

For more information call toll free:

Wendy Thomi toll-free at 1-866-457-2690 extension 5037 or

Matthew Cohn at 1-800-227-8917 extension 6853 or

EPA Information Center at 293-6194